

NEWS RELEASE

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BLM Fireworks, Smoking and Fire Restrictions in Effect for July 4th

LAS CRUCES – The U.S. Bureau of Land Management fireworks ban and other, temporary smoking and fire restrictions remain in effect during the upcoming 4th of July weekend.

Fireworks are banned all the time on all BLM-managed land. Because of recent extremely dry conditions, the BLM's offices in Las Cruces, Socorro, Roswell and Carlsbad also have issued fire restrictions. The restrictions apply to smoking, campfire, fuel stove, explosives and chainsaw use.

Specifics of the restrictions are available at: www.nm.blm.gov and www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire. Firefighters and persons with permits authorizing the otherwise prohibited acts are exempt from the orders. Violators may be fined up to \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 12 months.

The BLM manages about 10 million acres of publicly owned land in southern New Mexico.